

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing sales data, comprising:
 - 2 storing a plurality of data components as groups of data components in a database,
 - 3 wherein the plurality of data components comprises information relating to products, and
 - 4 information relating to customers;
 - 5 assigning a subset of the plurality of users to a content review group ("CRG");
 - 6 notifying each user in the CRG to provide input regarding individual data components of
 - 7 a group of data components, wherein the input comprises,
 - 8 indicating whether data components are accurate;
 - 9 entering comments regarding the data components; and
 - 10 entering edits to the data components;
 - 11 receiving and storing the input;
 - 12 notifying a content director ("CD") to review the input, wherein the review comprises,
 - 13 editing the comments entered;
 - 14 deleting the comments entered; and
 - 15 consolidating the input; and
 - 16 staging at least one of the data components to be stored in a central database, based upon
 - 17 the review.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying each user in the CRG comprises:
 - 2 setting an active group flag for a CRG that is designated to participate in review;

3 setting an active data component group flag for a data component group that is to be
4 reviewed; and

5 transmitting an electronic mail (“e-mail”) to each user in the CRG having the active group
6 flag set, wherein the e-mail requests each user to participate in reviewing the data component
7 group having the active data component flag set.

1 3. A system for collecting and managing sales data, comprising:
2 a central database that stores information relating to a plurality of products available from
3 a plurality of suppliers, wherein the information is input by a plurality of users and is stored as
4 data component groups;
5 at least one World Wide Web server (“Web server”);
6 a plurality of processors, at least one of which stores an authoring application,
7 comprising,
8 an administrative module; and
9 a server component, wherein the server component periodically polls the central
10 database to determine when to notify content review group (“CRG”) members requesting review
11 of a data component group; and
12 hypertext markup language (“HTML”) pages that display data components of the
13 data component group, and receive review input from the CRG members.